

SPORTS



FIRST RECORD YET AT 800 TOURNAMENT OF SOVIET NATIONS

Meeting sports writers recently, the Technical Sports Organizing Committee of the All-Soviet Summer Tournament of Soviet Nations stressed that the tournament's final results in 27 technical sports were still ahead, but already the first record was set — altogether 16,600,000 people competed at district, city, regional and republican level, nearly 150 per

cent more than in the previous tournament. Currently there are over 30,000,000 people practicing these sports.

Over 1,500,000 various contests were held in the past year alone, and 3,500,000 qualified sportsmen were trained.

Motorcycle circuit races were among the first sports on the competition list.

GDR LEAD PEACE RACE

The GDR cycling team has consolidated its lead over the Soviet Union in the Peace Race, a critical importance in this respect was the ninth stage, which wound up in Latinville, Czechoslovakia, and was won by Ilvo Rohs of the GDR. The USSR placed fourth

and are now fourth overall behind the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Falk Boden, of the GDR, has taken over from Oleg Chirchik, of the USSR, as individual leader.

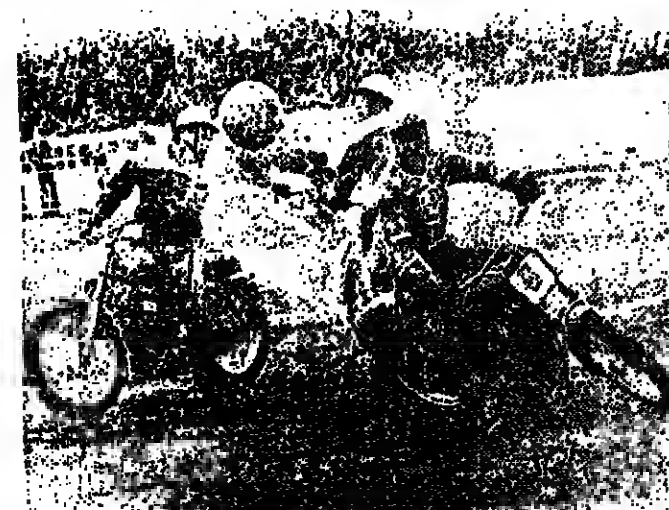
The 39th Peace Race will roll to a close on May 22.

DRAW FOR A START

The USSR drew in Rostov with Bulgaria 2-2 in their first qualifying game of the Olympic football tournament.

The USSR will next take on Greece on May 26 in Moscow.

Motor ball: FIRST STAGE OVER



Kovrovets edged Metallurg 3-2 in a recent national motor ball championship game.

Photo by Sergei Prashkov

Vice-champions Metallurg from Vilnoys lead the standings of the 19th national motor ball championship with 14 points and a 34.10 goal difference.

The defending champions Kovrovets are in second place with the same points but a worse goal difference of 24-9. Last year's

brooke medallists Elita Avtomobilist are in third place with ten points.

The second stage will kick off on August 28. During the recess the USSR national will enter the 14th European Cup due in West Germany on June 2-5, and later will play a series of friendlies with West Germany, Holland and France.



Anderlecht win through

Belgium's Anderlecht have picked up the UEFA Cup, drawing with Portugal's Benfica 1-1 in the second-leg final game and winning through 1-0 in the first game.

Benfica were largely the attacking side but Anderlecht's defences were impenetrable. Though Benfica's Shew scored in the 36th minute, Lomba scored a splendid header three minutes later.

In the second half Benfica's coach Sven Eriksson, of Sweden, who led the little-known Goteborg club to UEFA Cup victory last year, fielded two substitutes but to no avail.

Benfica's best man was Eriksson's fellow-countryman mid-fielder Stromberg.

This is Anderlecht's first UEFA win. In 1978 and 1979 they won the Cup Winners Cup.



Branova scoring the 1,500th goal for the Kiev Spartak football club, European Winners Cup holders.

Soviet Grandmasters in China

According to Xinhua, the latest friendly chess series in Shanghai Soviet Grandmaster Yuri Balashov drew with China's International Master Qi Jingxuan and Nino Gurlii defeated Master Wu Xiaoying. Later Balashov and Gurlii tied respectively with Li Zhiang and Peng Zhaoqin.

EUROPEAN SHOOTING CUP OVER

The USSR placed third in the European trap shooting Cup, just ended in Ankara, with 575 points, behind winners Czechoslovakia (587) and France (579).

Italian Luka Skirbant won the individual title with 199 points and just one miss.

CRUYFF QUIT BIG-TIME FOOTBALL

One of the world's top football aces of the 70s, Johan Cruyff of Holland, has decided to quit the game.

Cruyff, who recently turned 35, was on this year's Ajax team, which won the national championship. He was in his prime in 1974 when Holland made the World Cup final, where it lost to West Germany. Despite this loss the experts believe that it was Holland which set the pace for world soccer for many years to come.

At that time Holland, led by the "Flying Dutchman" as they dubbed Cruyff, played all-round football keynoted by high speed and player interchangeability.

He later spent several years playing in Spain and the USA, then rejoined Ajax as an inspirational for the club's aspiring players. It was precisely the blend of youthful zeal and experience that restored Ajax' reputation as Holland's No. 1 club.

Were it not for my back injury, which is getting progressively worse, I would have played several years more, but



now it's time to make way for the young, Cruyff told teammates.

Vladimir Makhlis

LENDL BELOW PAR

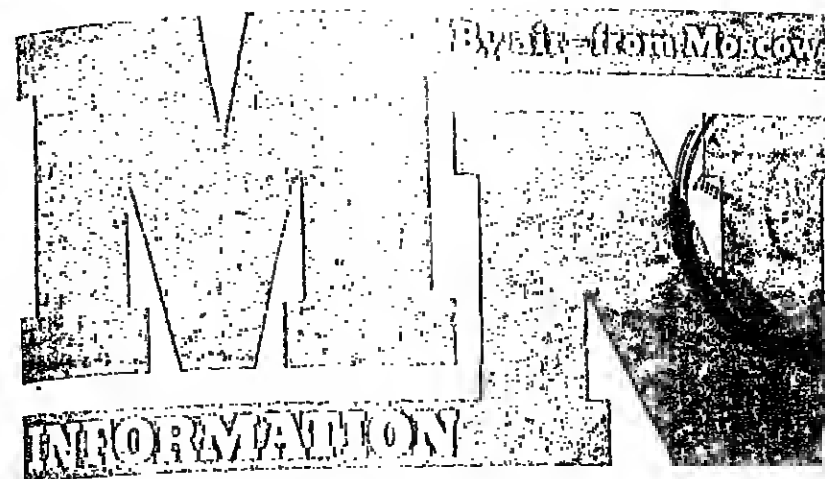
French tennis champion Yannick Noah won the annual Hamburg International tournament, beating defending champion Jose Figueras of Spain, 3-6, 7-5, 6-2, 8-0 in the final.

In the quarterfinals Noah put out up-and coming Swede Mats Wilander, 6-4, 6-4, thus ending short the latter's 43-game winning streak.

Balazs Taroczy, of Hungary, produced quite a force, although he lost to Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia in the second round.

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INDIRA GANDHI: blockade of aid to India

Delhi. At a speech in Lucknow in the Uttar Pradesh State to leaders of the ruling Indian National Congress (I) the Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi noted that efforts are being made to blockade economic aid to India.

On 25 occasions Washington has officially declared its opposition to credits being given to India by the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund. The latest example of such tactics is the US-sponsored campaign aimed at preventing India from obtaining aid from the Asian Development Bank.

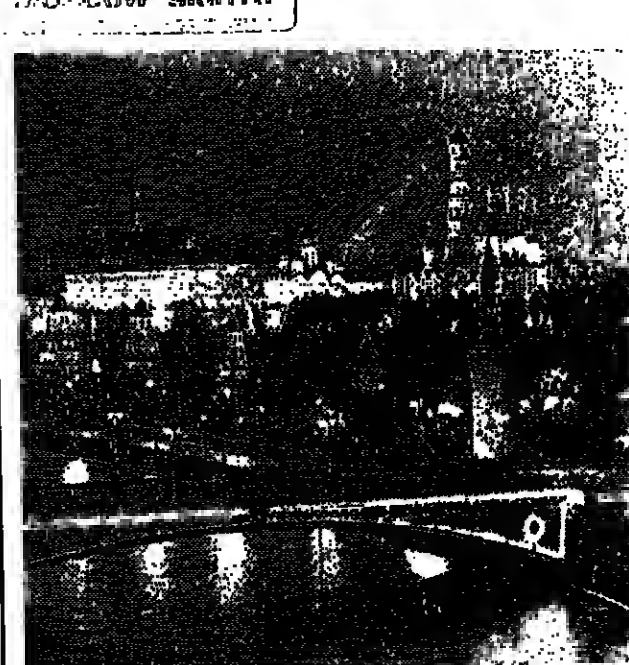
L. Gandhi voiced concern over the growing outside interference into India's internal affairs, directed at undermining its national unity and territorial integrity. Outside forces stand behind the reactionary elements, she said, which have provoked the recent mass disorders and rebellions in Assam, and behind the extremists responsible for the clashes in Punjab.

Results of Brussels summit

Brussels. The EEC countries and 63 African, Caribbean and Pacific developing countries — members of ACP — have ended their meeting here at the ministerial level. The meeting has served as a sort of prologue to the forthcoming negotiations on the renewal in 1985 of the present Second Lomé Convention defining the terms and forms of trade and economic links between the EEC and ACP.

The Common Market has categorically denied practically every demand from the developing countries — which seek, among other things, credits to the tune of 450 million units under the Stabilization of Export Earnings structure set up under the Lomé Convention, in order to purchase food, and to sell foodstuffs on favourable terms. The ACP countries were indignant at the EEC's refusal to help them combat hunger. Saying that they are suffering from the continuing economic crisis, EEC members have left unanswered requests from the developing countries that they be given greater access to EEC food markets.

INDONESIA SAFETY



Sam Nujoma: SWAPO ready for talks with Pretoria

London. SWAPO is prepared to sign a ceasefire agreement and to enter into direct talks with Pretoria to end the war with bloodshed in Namibia. SWAPO President Sam Nujoma told the South African "Daily Mail". South Africa, however, refuses to agree to this and continues to sabotage the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No. 435.

Now York. The Security Council will discuss on May 23 at the demand of the

African nations to discuss the early liberation of Namibia from the racial-colonial yoke of the South Africa criminal regime, which is actively supported by the United States and other Western powers. Taking part are 30 foreign ministers from the non-aligned countries, including the "frontline" African states and SWAPO, the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people recognized by the UN and by many international organizations.

FACTS and EVENTS

Since Mrs Thatcher's Conservative Government came into power, the ordinary man's income has shrunk on average by 4% per cent. This figure is quoted in a poll by the democ-

atic organization, the Low Pay Unit.

The Western powers are torpeding the UN-declared embargo on supplies of oil to the racist Republic of South Africa. Over the past twelve months, the regime in Pretoria has imported more than 16 million tonnes of liquid fuel.



Moscow today

The Kremlin as seen from the Rausskaya Embankment, Prospekt Kotlaia.

Photos by TASS and Andriy Kryazev

USSR and India to expand cooperation

At a recent ceremony at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Ambassador Yuri Kirichenko, head of the Ministry Department for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and Saria Grewal, Secretary at the Indian Ministry of Education and Culture, signed another two-year exchange Programme between the USSR and India in the fields of culture, science and education.

It is gratifying that our contacts grow with every passing year in many areas of knowledge and the arts, and that this process has inexhaustible potential — the culture of the USSR and that of India going back many centuries, Grewal stressed. India is looking forward to guest performances by the Bol-

shoi Theatre, the Bolshoi Puppet Theatre from Leningrad as well as to an exhibition of Russian and Soviet art called, "Traditions and the Present Day".

An Indian folk dance ensemble and a folk dance and song company, as well as a retrospective exhibition of the works of Jai Lal Roy, entitled "Sources and Traditions of Modern Indian Painting" will visit the USSR.

The programme envisages joint research, student and post-graduate exchange, and cooperation in radio, TV and the cinema industry.

We are glad that previous work in this field has been a success, because this enables us to embark on a new programme to run well into the 80s.

BRATSK HEP BEATS WORLD RECORD

An important stage in the reconstruction of the Bratsk HEP in Eastern Siberia, has been completed. The first, eighteenth hydraulic power unit, has been reconnoitred. This has coincided with the generation of 400,000 million kilowatt of electricity produced by the station.

There is no other station in the world producing as much electricity. The first power unit at the HEP was commissioned slightly more than twenty years ago. Since then maintenance personnel, in cooperation with scientists and machine builders, have been busy perfecting the station. The modernization has

increased the station's power rating by half a million kilowatts. The HEP will be further modernized. Together with the Votkinsk station, it lies at the head of a major territorial and industrial complex which has grown up on the Angara. Electricity from these hydroelectric stations goes to enterprises in the non-ferrous metalworking, and pulp-and-paper industries. While long-distance power transmission lines deliver it to towns and settlements along the Bajkal-Amur Railway project.

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SCHMIDT: DETENTE— A BAD WORD IN AMERICAN CIRCLES

Washington. In an interview with "The Washington Post", the former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt said he doubted the sincerity of the Reagan administration's moves during the Soviet-American talks on control over armaments in Geneva. He, Europeans, want to cooperate with the Soviet Union, especially in limiting armaments, he stressed. It seems, Schmidt noted, that détente is now regarded as a bad word in American circles. No government in Europe will give up détente. We want to live in peace, he said.

Schmidt firmly condemned unilateral actions by the White House to curtail East-West relations, and denounced Washing-

ton for ignoring the interest of the West European partners.

The Americans imposed their demands on the construction of the Soviet pipeline without consulting us. We learned about this, he said, from the evening news broadcast.

The 1979 grain embargo and the attempts to boycott the 1980 Summer Olympics demonstrate the extent to which the Americans are prepared to override the interests of their allies.

I have never seen such disregard for the Europeans as has been shown by the Carter government and the present Reagan administration, Schmidt noted.

UN condemns American Caribbean policies

New York. The UN Security Council has discussed the persistent tension in Central America and around Nicaragua, which has become the victim of armed aggression by Somoza gangs, encouraged by the CIA, in a resolution adopted on the initiative of a group of non-aligned countries. The Council has expressed profound concern over the danger of a military clash between Honduras and Nicaragua as a result of the incessant incursions by counter-revolutionary gangs, and of the deliveries of American military

technology and equipment across the border from Honduras territory. The UN has confirmed the right of Nicaragua and of all other countries in the region to live in peace without outside interference. The resolution praises Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama for their efforts to resolve the conflict by negotiation and their observation of the principles of non-interference and of the inadmissibility of the use of the territory of any state for acts of aggression.



Serely it is obvious that we are making giant strides on our way out of Lebanon! Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

ACT IN BREACH OF PEACE

Rome. The NATO decision to deploy to West Germany new American nuclear medium-range missiles contradicts a whole range of the country's constitutional provisions and, therefore, the placement of such missiles in West Germany would be an illegal act, reads a report issued by the Association of West German Democratic Lawyers and published in the "Deutsche Volkszeitung" weekly.

The constitution requires the state authorities to observe the principles of the defence of peace and all actions conducive to the violation of peaceful co-existence and preparations for aggressive war are unconstitutional and punishable. It is stressed that the new generation of missiles are first-strike weapons, as well as the Reagan administration's aggressive nuclear strategy, the only correct conclusion is that the placement of missiles in West Germany would be an act in breach of peace. It is emphasized in the report.

Chief condition of national unity

Beirut. The unconditional withdrawal of the interventionist Israeli troops from Lebanon is the chief condition for ensuring national unity, security and stability in Lebanon, said the Syrian Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdul Halim Khaddam. He noted in an interview of the "en-Nahar al-Arabi" newspaper that the recently signed Lebanese-Israeli agreement, prepared with the participation of the USA, deprives the Lebanese Republic of freedom and independence and virtually answers only to Tel Aviv's interests. The agreement, said A. H. Khaddam, cannot solve the Lebanese problem. Lebanon remains under the yoke of the Israeli invaders, while its population is subjected to terror and violence. Added to which, the Syrian Minister stressed, the agreement poses an immediate danger to the security of Syria and of other Arab states, since it perpetuates an unlimited Israeli presence in Lebanon.

GREEK GOVERNMENT PROTEST

Athens. The Greek government has firmly protested to the American Embassy in Athens over the violation of Greek airspace by American and Turkish military aircraft. The Greek Foreign Minister Ioannis Charalambopoulos summoned the American Ambassador to hand over to him the protest note.

Several days ago, American and Turkish war planes, taking part in NATO's Distant Drum-83 manoeuvres, invaded Greek airspace. Earlier Greece had refused to take part in the manoeuvres. This provocative step is regarded here as an American attempt to put pressure on Athens on the eve of a new round of Greek-American talks.

VIEWPOINT

Yuri KURITSYN

AID TO DEVELOPMENT AND ITS ANTITHESIS

The non-alignment movement has proposed that high-level inter-state contacts be established on economic matters, in order to facilitate a wide discussion of the current world economic crisis and to make sure that the essence of the proposals put forward at the Conference of Non-Aligned Countries (Dahli, March 1983) which discussed ways of alleviating the difficulties of developing nations, is conveyed in one form or another to the leaders of industrialized nations, the socialist states included.

As a matter of fact, the USSR has made a thorough study of the conference's decisions and proposals, sympathizes with them and is already doing a lot towards their implementation; at the same time it fully rejects all attempts to hold the socialist nations responsible, on a par with imperialism, for the economic plight of the developing countries.

The total volume of Soviet economic aid to developing nations between 1975 and 1980 alone amounted to some 35,000 million roubles (42,000 million dollars), an average one per cent of the country's GNP.

At one time the United Nations recommended that the industrialized states bring their development aid to the "third" world up to 0.7 per cent of their GNP—the Soviet Union has already surpassed this target by nearly 2.5-fold even though it is no advocate of aid scales based in advance.

How do critics of the USSR fare in this matter by comparison? According to UNCTAD figures at the present time the industrialized capitalist nations have only approached the half point of the UN-specified development aid quota, i.e., no more than 0.24 per cent of their GNP goes on "official development aid", while American assistance accounts for a mere 0.19 of its GNP, or much less than a third of the 0.7 target figure. Added to which, the United States has been steadily decreasing the level of government aid in recent years, with the lion's share of it going to a few of its closest friends in which weapons and military equipment feature more and more prominently as goods unobtainable on the American market.

Equally important is what stands behind the nominal size of the aid: 80 per cent of Soviet economic aid is in the form of interest-free credits, while the industrialized states, with the exception of the USSR, use interest-bearing loans.

On capital investment in the "third world" are two to three and a half times higher than in industrialized capitalist nations. The United States, for one, thus made 48,000 million dollars in the developing countries in 1979-79 though made there new investments of only 11,500 million in the same period.

The USSR, on the other hand, took not a single dollar out of its capital investment there — it only because it has no such investment in these countries, while all its aid projects there are now property of the local governments.

Aid dynamics are also relevant in this respect. Over the past two decades the volume of Soviet aid to developing countries shot up 8.6-fold, including 6.6-fold for Asia and 13-fold for Africa; and the USSR has never gone back on the principles governing its aid, the chief one being "no political strings to be attached".

There is no sign of the United States increasing the absolute volume of its aid, though it is putting growing emphasis on the political aspects of aid and uses it to put pressure upon its partners. Way back in 1974 the US Department of State set up a special unit to make recommendations on aid to individual countries based on their voting histories in the UN, i.e., the aid to depend on whether or not they supported America of the UN. As for the current American administration it is outstandingly notorious for the way it attaches political strings to its aid.

Predominant in Western aid are loans and credits with annual interest rates of between 7.5 and 13 per cent. Last year the developing countries had to pay 84,000 million dollars to satisfy this interest, to say nothing of repayment on their male debt. And what is more, these payments are asked for in hard currency—whereas the USSR requests only a token quantity of their export goods as interest payment on its credits from its "third world" partners.

For the capitalist countries the notion of aid also includes the capital investment of their monopolies in the developing countries' economies, this being yet another way of enrichment at the latter's expense. According to UNCTAD figures, profits



FACTS AND EVENTS

It is Orlain, the first group of American servicemen are to arrive at the Air Force base at Oranienstein (Belshir) early this June to make up the special command groups where task is to launch the cruise missile. According to the "Peace News" magazine of London, 30 American soldiers and officers have already completed their course of training at the US Air Force base at Davis-Monthan (Arizona).

During fierce fighting over a town in the department of Cabes, the Salvadoran regime army has lost more than a hundred men killed and several dozens wounded. The Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front have taken twenty soldiers prisoner and captured large quantities of weapons and ammunition.

Brazilian police have seized a large batch of counterfeit money in Brazil. The biggest in the history of the country was seized in the Viracopos Airport in the state of Sao Paulo. The seized goods include 25 tonnes of radio and electronic equipment worth 1,650 million cruzeiros.

The Congress of deputies of the Spanish parliament has approved a government bill to nationalize Rumasa, Spain's biggest financial and industrial concern. The aim of this measure is to prevent the imminent collapse of the concern, which would otherwise inflict considerable damage on the country's economy. The takeover will also help save more than 65,000 jobs.

According to figures released by Mexico's central bank, the profits of foreign companies in the country in 1981, they invested just over 1,999 million dollars, making a profit of 2,300 million dollars.

Under pressure from the Reagan administration, the US Senate Appropriations Committee has set aside 625 million dollars for continued development of the new intercontinental ballistic MX missile, of which 140 million dollars will go into R&D.

India: grain purchase

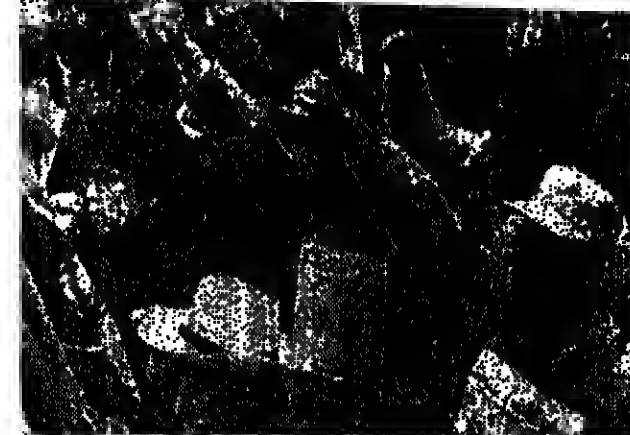
Delhi. Because of the drought which has hit some states in India, the government to Delhi has taken drastic measures to purchase a winter harvest grain in the north-west areas of the country. According to A. R. Shrivastava, Director of the Indian Food Corporation, this season it is planned to purchase 8.1 million tonnes of wheat, mostly in Punjab and Haryana.

Arab plight in occupied territory

Geneva. The Arabs resident in the Israeli-occupied territory are the target of ruthless repression both by Israeli enforcers and the occupation administration. Such is the conclusion of a special commission of the International Labour Organization which toured the Israeli-occupied West Bank of Jordan, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights.

Secret American-Israeli agreement

New York. "The New York Times" reports that apart from the peace treaty, representatives of the United States and Israel have also signed an agreement which gives Tel Aviv the "right" to attack those whom it regards as "terrorists". This pact is one of the results of the Middle East tour by American Secretary of State.



The intention of turning the Japanese port of Sasebo into a home port for the largest ship in the US Navy, carrying 32 Tomahawk cruise missiles and 16 Harpoon missiles, is causing profound concern among the Japanese public. They protest against the Pentagon intention of converting port Sasebo into a permanent base for US nuclear missile carriers. In the photo: crowds in Sasebo demonstrate against ships carrying US nuclear weapons calling at the port.

How many political prisoners in Pakistan?

Lahore. The Human Rights Society in Pakistan has released a report on the political prisoners in Pakistan arrested by General Mohammad Zia ul-Haq's military administration. The report says that there are 375 political prisoners in Pakistan jails, mostly members of the intelligentsia — lawyers, trade unionists and students. At a press conference organized by the society it was said that since the military came to power nine prisoners had died as a result of cruel treatment. The report is based on an eight-month investigation conducted by society activists. However, Western diplomats and observers believe that the figures quoted in the report are too conservative. They estimate that at present there are six thousand political prisoners in Pakistani jails.

Science and technology

THE MAIN SOURCE OF ELECTRICITY

Atomic power stations will account for over a third of the electric energy generated in Japan by the mid-90s. According to calculations of the General Council for Power Engineering of Japan, by the end of the 20th century, atomic energy will be the country's main source of electricity. At present, electric energy produced by atomic power stations makes up about 20 per cent of Japan's total amount of energy.

ROBOT 'HOUSEWIFE'



There are industrial, as well as non-industrial robots. The latter are designed by scientists to facilitate the burden of domestic chores. In the photograph taken from the Colombian magazine "Cromos", robot Ro-1 is walking a dog. This small bipedal can make beds, call the police, lay the table, wash the walls, and meltale order in a library. Ro-1 performs all these duties with immaculate precision. It should, however, be noted that the present cost of the robot "housewife" puts it beyond the reach for most of us.

OF INTEREST

American buys Eiffel Tower restaurant

As is generally known quite a few ancient monuments have been moved from the Old World to the New. A certain American moneybags was eager to have the Eiffel Tower at his "home". It is not all that long ago that he bought the "colossal" tower for \$120 million. He had to be disappointed because the weight of the tower is too great for the foundations of the tower, which is

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

UNHITCHING THE WAGGON?

Exploding the pro-NATO thesis that an FRG refusal to deploy American missiles would play into the Soviet Union's hands—which is supposedly trying to "offload" West Germany from the United States, or, to other words, to unhitch the FRG wagon from the NATO train pulled by the Washington locomotive, PRAVDA's Bonn correspondent Yu. Vokhonorov writes:

Those who know the history of the problem, remember very well that it was after NATO had approved the nuclear missile plan that Washington started to monitor "limited" nuclear war in Europe. Destined in the American scenario for a role, different from that of the United States, Europe was to become an arena of nuclear colossus. It is not Moscow, therefore, but Washington that trying to unhitch the West German wagon calculating that the American locomotive will remain intact, should the former meet with an accident.

WHO'S ENGAGING IN 'INTIMIDATION POLITICS'?

Exploding the claims made by French official circles that the French nuclear force does not threaten the USSR, IZVESTIA's political observer Valentin Fulin writes:

Such rhetoric may impress the American reader. But it is hardly likely to hoodwink the Soviet citizen.

So the French nuclear force does not threaten the USSR? But who then is engaging in "intimidation politics"? Or have they learnt verbal oneness and do they now threaten without threats? The Minister of Defence Ch. Mernu is openly inspired by the concept of "unpredictability" in the use of the "intimidation forces". He is impressed with the approach of the present American rulers for whom unpredictability means holding the neighbourhood in permanent tension, so that no one will dare venture to raise their head, and exhausting tomorrow's enemy with the uncertainty of today. The difference between unpredictability in the French and American variant is purely quantitative but not in any way qualitative.

The Soviet Union was not happy when the United States had "just" 300 atomic bombs or with the Charleston plan which provided for the destruction of "only" 70 nuclear cities off Soviet cities at once. Nor are we inhibited today in the knowledge that "only" 434 nuclear warheads sit in the French and British missile arsenals at the socialist countries, and that there are plans to triple them by the mid-1990s (instead of threefold mutual reduction by the current decade as the USSR has suggested).

THE PENTAGON'S ADVANCED POSTS IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

America's intention of establishing its dominion over South-East Asia is the subject of an article by Major-General R. Simonyan in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. The motivation for this intention, says the General, lies in the region's economic and strategic importance. It has every resource and lies close to the southern borders of the USSR.

The latter factor is being put to "good" use by the Pentagon. The American medium-range nuclear weapons (aircraft carrier aviation above all else) deployed in the Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea, together with various weapons in the ether "theatre of operations", in particular in Japan and South Korea, are capable of covering the Asian part of the Soviet Union.

The American intention of dropping the Atlantic bloc into its military adventures in South-East Asia has of late become increasingly evident. This aim is pursued via attempts at establishing operational links between the NATO southern flank and the American forces in the Middle and Near East.

MULTIPLE CONFLICT

Is there a hope of a reasonable solution to the contradictions now arising between the USA and the developing countries? Answering this question in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, Iosif Origulevich, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and a Latin American expert, writes:

From the policies followed by the Reagan administration today it would seem that the future of these relations is viewed as developing into a many-sided conflict between the USA and other countries. The acuteness of the conflict may vary from economic war to armed collision—as was the case with the war on the Iles Malvinas. It is not impossible that a similar collision could lead to global conflict. Our position is clear in this matter. We take account of the fact that new forces have emerged on the international scene—including developing countries with interests and problems which have to be resolved. We favour solving such problems, and all other things being equal, the negotiating table, in a peaceful manner. Is this possible? I believe, it is.

six-year time is due to celebrate its centenary. The restaurant, broken up into 11,000 parts, was shipped to New York. Renamed the "Eiffel Tower" it will soon be opening its doors to customers on the banks of the Hudson River.

Giant cherry tree

A giant cherry tree growing in a village in the Chita province in Japan, is more than 80 metres high and 11 metres in girth. Legend has it that it was planted by Emperor Keiko about 1,600 years ago when he hid in the locality from his enemies. When the tree is in blossom, the village becomes a place of pilgrimage for the curious and tourists. It is now given the status of a national monument.

Faked masterpieces

The Spanish police have uncovered a large-scale swindling racket involving faked old masterpieces. The investigation has established that enterprising painters had painted about 600 canvases, copying such world masters as Picasso, Goya, and Velázquez. It is today to be seen in the prices, the swindlers

Round the Soviet Union

● AN EXPEDITION THAT HAS SET OFF TO TYNDIA IN THE CENTRAL PART OF THE BAIKAL-AMUR RAILWAY AREA IN THE FAR EAST HAS THE TASK OF PROSPECTING FOR WATER FOR LOCAL TOWNS AND VILLAGES. Experts from Leningrad have already made a list of the reservoirs in the region, and have drawn up detailed descriptions of the larger and smaller rivers. They have now to assess reserves of known underground water deposits.

● A CONTEST OF FOLK STORYTELLERS, THEY ARE KNOWN AS BAKSHI, HAS TAKEN PLACE IN THE CENTRAL ASIAN UZBEK TOWN OF KASHI. The participants performed the traditional legends — epic stories dating back in ancient times and now revived. Spectators were also given a chance to become acquainted with modern Uzbek folktales. Some of the winners of the contest were women, though in days gone by storytelling was a strictly male profession.

● THE "AKADMIK ALEXANDER VINOGRADOV" RESEARCH VESSEL HAS MADE FOR THE ATLANTIC AND INDIAN OCEANS. It will carry out a wide-ranging studies on environmental pollution and on matter migration in the ocean-atmosphere system.

● FORMER SALINE LANDS IN THE EAST OF THE TRANS-CASPIAN REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA HAVE BEEN MADE FERTILE. A further 300 hectares of desalinated land irrigated by the Alazani River, has been made available to farmers. Paddy will be grown here. Since the beginning of this year 1,600 hectares of land have been reclaimed.

● AIRWAYS HAVE RESUMED REGULAR FLIGHTS FROM COPENHAGEN TO TOKYO VIA MOSCOW. The route, which crosses Siberia, cuts four hours off flight time as compared with that for the flight across the North Pole. SAS and Aeroflot planes will operate on the route once a week.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

OIL FROM THE KARAKUM DESERT

35,000,000 tonnes of oil and gas condensate were produced between 1976 and 1980 in Turkmenia, the southernmost Soviet Central Asian Republic, in which lies the Karakum Desert, writes IZVESTIYA.

As before, in the current five-year plan period (1981-85) the republic's fuel and power complex will enjoy priority development. Gas extraction, for instance, is to reach between 81,000 and 83,000 million cu m, and oil refining is to double in these five years.

The extraction of oil from deserts, where the wells are sometimes 5,500 m deep and summer temperatures of +50°C in the shade are quite normal, is a punishing though profitable business, writes "Izvestiya". For instance, the Bora-Gelma field, which produces over 1,300,000 tonnes of oil and 1,000 million cu m of natural gas, has the best oil in this country — with few admixtures and yielding excellent gasoline, kerosene, electrode coke, and other products of the oil-refining industry. Oilmen in the desert use the advanced gas lift technique to extract more oil from the seam, the paper points out.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS IN THIS COUNTRY

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA writes about the organization of professional and vocational training in this country.

The USSR has seven and a half thousand vocational and technical training colleges and schools. Here nearly four million young men and women are trained

Academy of Arts: 225 years old

The Academy of Arts is celebrating its 225th anniversary. A huge exhibition of Russian and Soviet art spread over the Central Exhibition Hall, the hall of the Academy itself, and the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow has been organized in honour of the event.

The following are among the famous artists whose works are to be seen at the show: Rokotov, Bryullov, Kramskoy, Surikov, Vassiliev, Vrubel and Nekrasov. Both the great Russian painters of the past and outstanding Soviet masters are linked with the Academy.

When it was founded (it started life at Moscow University), the Academy fulfilled the role of an educational establishment. Its pupils became teachers, and in turn carried the methods of the academic school to different corners of the extensive Russian Empire. It was here well-known painters not only of Russia, but also from the Ukraine, Byelorussia, Ar-



This is what the Academy may look like in the future. One of the entries submitted in the contest for a new Academy of Arts building announced on its 225th jubilee.



A study of "Composer Kora-Karavayev" by Yel Senikhov, USSR People's Artist and Acting Member of the Academy.



By Yuri Bryullov's "Horsewoman" (1832).

menia, Latvia and Georgia received tuition.

The activities of the present-day Academy of Arts spread beyond the confines of the educational process. Today the Academy acts above all as a creative, methodological and organizational centre of the artistic life of the country. Coming under its umbrella, for example, is a Research Institute of the Theory and History of the Fine Arts, a publishing house, laboratories and workshops. The Academy organizes many exhibitions both in this country and abroad. It annually awards three gold and seven silver medals for outstanding works of art.

At different times the title of an academician of the Academy of Arts has been conferred on famous painters and sculptors. Among the academicians are the outstanding foreign masters — Renato Guttuso (Italy), Sviatoslav Roerich (India), Andrew Wyeth (USA) and others.

Photos by Georgi Sirelnikov

Hydrocomplex in the Carpathians

Rapid mountain floods will eventually be channelled into a hydrocomplex which is at present being built in the Carpathians (Western Ukraine). Builders have started digging a 24-km-long channel for the Stry River.

Designers have suggested bridging the river canyon with a dam as high as a 16-story building. The reservoir, formed as a result, will accommodate up to 175 million cubic metres of water, which will then flow through two 450-metre-long tunnels of a deep spillway cut out of rock.

Once the complex goes into operation it will help solve important problems relating to the region's economy and ecology. Accumulated floodwater will provide a better water supply for Lvov, Drohobych, Stry and Truskavets. The lowland meadows will act as an additional source of fodder, while the river's lower reaches will be more fully protected against floods.

Large-scale anti-flood systems are also being built on the rivers Prut, Chornohor and Bystritsa. Their construction is provided for under a unified programme for water regulation and land improvement in the foothill area of the Carpathians.

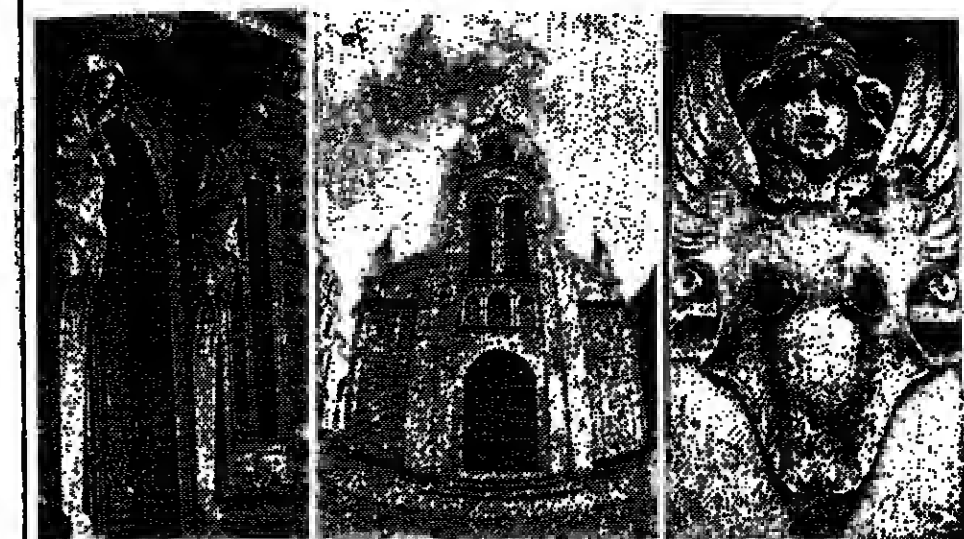
A chemical giant to rise

Construction has begun on the Novomendeleyevsk chemical plant in the Volgograd Autonomous Republic of Russia where the first bucket of soil was excavated. The first reinforced concrete block has been laid at the site of the would-be residential area.

The Novomendeleyevsk chemical plant is designed to produce hundreds of thousands of tonnes of mineral fertilizers: ammonium, sulphate, and other products. The enterprise will use the most modern engineering achievements.

Places to visit

RIGA: AN OPEN-AIR MUSEUM



As they were centuries ago, the spires of the famous Riga cathedral are reflected in the waters of the Daugava River. The old streets and old houses are full of charm. A wide range of different architectural styles, Gothic, classical, baroque and others, are to be found in the city: the remnants of a 13th-century fortress wall, the 14th-century tower of the St. Peter's Church and the 16th-century tower of the St. John's Church are still standing. The city is also famous for its many parks and gardens, as well as its many museums and libraries.

Riga is also a modern town and proudly accepts new architectural styles. From the observation platform on the tower of St. Peter's Church one can see not only the old buildings, but also the impressive skyline of new Riga: the 26-story Hotel Latvia, the cable bridge across the Daugava and the Press House skyscraper. In the photos: studies of the Old City.

Photos by Andrei Knyazev

DESERT RETREATS

The builders of the Zeld reservoir in the Central Asian Republic of Turkmenia continue their offensive against the desert. Two large hydraulic structures are being built simultaneously with the filling of a 26 m high dam. Large cotton, grapes and other specialized farms will be set up here in the Zeld area. The Zeld reservoir is the fifth one on the Karakum Canal. It will accumulate as much water as all the 17 reservoirs now in operation in the republic. A water intake structure is now being built at a distance of 60 kilometres from the Amudarya River.

A lot is still to be done on the Zeld project — to level out the sand dunes on the bottom of the would-be lake, to build a settlement for one thousand

people and to fill in the dunes. Over the three years of construction dozens of kilometres of canals have been dug out for which about one million cubic metres of soil have been removed, some of it — by pipeline. An air field and a helicopter ground have been built. A field planted with green saplings can be seen several kilometres away from the construction site. This is the first ever garden on the Zeld.

EXPANDING A RESORT

A new building has been commissioned for the central facilities of the all-Union resort Druzhninsk (Lithuania). This is the medical resort Puzinas (pine tree forest) built to treat the veterans of the Great Patriotic War 1941-45. The high-rise building with two-bed rooms

will accommodate hundreds of people annually who need an active preventive treatment. A special rehabilitation course has been devised to treat former combat casualties who were operated on their joints during the war against the German Nazis.

Other treatment facilities of this popular spa have been expanded too. Over ten thousand former defenders of our Motherland will be able to come to the resort for treatment and health rehabilitation before the end of 1983.

KHOLMOGORY BONE CARVING

There is no nation in the world that does not strive to make its everyday life more beautiful. If one takes account of the fact that more than 100 peoples and nationalities live in the Soviet Union, one can get some idea of the full variety of Soviet folk art, its wealth and

many traditions. Bone carving is a craft that is particularly widespread in the North European part of the country, in the Kholmogory area. Walnut, maple, linden and most often, specially processed cattle bones, a fairly strong and

long-lasting material, are used. The carvings are a mixture of relief combined with lacework ornamentation. Wide engraving is used to colour engraving and foil laid under lacework carving. Objects made by Kholmogory craftsmen have won prizes and

Science and technology

SATELLITE SERVES AS A DIVINING-ROD

Fresh water gushed forth from the very first well amidst the salt pans on the eastern coast of the Kam Bagaz Gol Bay in the Caspian. The well was drilled in the Karakum Desert (Central Asia) following recommendations based on photographs made from space.

From a greater height, it is always easier to notice places where the vegetation in the desert looks greener. These green spots are the result of cracks in the earth's crust which serve as natural water reservoirs amidst the arid sands.

These huge yet concealed cracks can only be detected from space. Photographs taken in space enabled Turkmenistan scientists to compile a map of the distribution of cracks in the Karakum Desert. The map will serve as a guide for the drillers who are searching for water, oil and gas.

NEW RESEARCH CENTRE IN KAZAKHSTAN

A new research centre, the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry which recently opened in Alma-Ata, capital of the Kazakh SSR, a republic in the east of the country, will focus on scientific control of productivity, quality of crops and on working out a basis for "designing" new crop strains.

The centre is to act as a back-up for the necessary development of modern agricultural production in that republic, where there are 3,000,000 hectares of land growing wheat, rice, sugar beet, cotton as well as another hundred crops.

Molecular biology is a new science in Kazakhstan, and yet local scientists have already contributed to its progress. The list of their achievements includes the discovery and study of interomosomes, a new class of intracellular particles essential for the transfer of genetic information.

This is the third such research centre in the country. Its staff are already co-operating with their colleagues in the USSR, Poland and Czechoslovakia. The institute will help organize the international symposium, "Prospects for biorganic chemistry and molecular biology", to be held in Alma-Ata next spring.

Different opinions are expressed at meetings and in the press. Obviously not all the proposals put forward will be incorporated into the new Law.

Preference will naturally be given to those of them which answer to the spirit of the new draft Law — i.e. help perfect socialist democracy, make more efficient the rights of the labour collective (but not to the detriment of the rights of the individual), and raise the role of the political system in this country.

Many Western authors draw attention to the fact that those taking part in the discussion of the draft Law often speak about the need for a tougher attitude towards the violations of labour discipline and they see in this the tightening of the screws. Westerners stand quite differently however. Labour collectives, with their growing interest in the results of work performed, are often inclined to put up with losses because of idlers and slacks. Excessive leniency shown to the latter is in effect prejudicial to the interests of the majority and contradicts the principles of our society.

Conscious democracy, as is stressed by the participants of the discussion, amounts to a sensible combination of rights and duties. One without the other is inconceivable and unrealistic.

VIEWPOINT

Discussion of new draft Law on labour collectives

Alexander GUBER

For nearly a month now a hull the Soviet people have been discussing the draft Law on labour collectives which has been drawn up by the government jointly with the AUCCTU, the highest trade union body in this country.

The discussion takes the widest variety of forms: the Law is debated at meetings within labour collectives and public organizations, by press, radio and TV. The interest in the draft Law is understandable, as it concerns everyone who works.

A labour collective consists of people working together, from manager of the factory or head of an institute down to a vocational school graduate, acquiring his first experience of the shop floor or laboratory.

The new Law which will undoubtedly undergo amendment in the course of the discussion, systematizes and generalizes the labour collective's rights and duties provided for by the previous legislation. In addition it considerably expands the authority of the labour collectives: first and foremost in the sphere of planning, management and control.

At the same time, the economic mechanism is being perfected in this country. The aim of this work is to raise the initiative and responsibility of workers at all levels and of the labour collectives, and to increase their interest in the attainment of maximum end results with the minimum of expenditure.

It is highly significant that these problems are usually taken as a whole by those participating in the discussion of the draft Law. For instance, the draft grants labour collectives the right to decide on the construction of housing, kindergartens, and other social projects to be financed from the relevant funds of the enterprise.

It stands to reason that the collective can only dispose of what it has. Therefore those who are taking part in the discussion suggest that the size of these funds be still more closely linked with the results of the work done by every collective.

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ENTERTAINMENT

SOVIET ARTIST'S GIFT TO INDIA

It was with excitement and joy that Ossian artist, A. Shakhbazzov, opened a letter bearing a Delhi postmark. It was from the Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi who thanked him for his gift to the people of her country.

During his tour of India, Shakhbazzov, who comes from the North Ossetian Autonomous Republic in the Caucasus, presented an engraving of Jawaharlal Nehru, the prominent political leader, statesman and freedom-fighter, to the Indian people through the Soviet Embassy in Delhi.

It took no almost a year to complete the portrait as I sought to convey Nehru's character, his wisdom and greatness of heart. He was a man who embodied the soul of his nation, says the artist.

This work was doubly pleasant to me since my autonomous

republic and the state of Himachal Pradesh are twinned.

For twenty years, A. Shakhbazzov has been employed by the republican association of folk artists. Works to his design are to be found in museums, and palaces of culture in many cities. He is the author of a portrait of Georgi Dimitroff, the outstanding leader of the Bulgarian and international communist movement. It is on display in Dimitroff's homeland. Shakhbazzov's portrait of Leonardo da Vinci, in the Leonardo da Vinci Museum, in Milan. Shakhbazzov's works have been shown at dozens of international exhibitions.

Among other things Shakhbazzov is now working on a series of engravings, "People and the Mountains," dedicated to the bicentennial of his native city and to the 60th anniversary of the Ossetian republic.

Tartu: OPEN-AIR CONCERT HALL

Stone vaults which have stood in silence for seven centuries in the very center of old Tartu, in Estonia, recently opened to the song of hundreds of young voices, at a performance by a boys' choir which inaugurated the opening of the summer concert hall.

Only the vaults of the town's oldest building remain. The rest of the hall is provided by nature itself — the park oaks on the stairs, balconies and boxes are found on hillocks, the whole covered by a green canopy of century-old linden tree branches.

In recent days Tartu — this cradle of Estonia's song festivals — has been turned into an open-air concert hall as the Tartu Spring Festival goes into action. Small bridges spanning the narrow streets of the old town serve as stages and concerts are given in front of the Town Hall. Artists and amateur photographers display their work on towns near busy intersections.

Kirov jubilee album

Muzika, the Leningrad publisher, have issued a richly illustrated picture album, called "The Kirov Opera and Ballet Company," dedicated to the 200th anniversary of one of the oldest theatres in the world.

For us dancers of the older generation this book is a part of our lives, said Konstantin Sergeyev, the first Kirov dancer with the company. He also worked with them as choreographer. My first role in "Cinderella" with Dudinskaya in the title role — these pages of the book evoke a host of memories. Those of us who embarked on our artistic careers at the end of the 20s had the job of laying the foundations of the new Soviet performing arts, and we are happy that we succeeded in passing on to our young colleagues an innovative spirit and a respectful attitude to the classical heritage.

The documents, engravings and photographs reproduced in the book reflect the company's history — from the first court productions to the present day.

The Days of Literature and the Arts of the Buryat SSR have ended in Moscow. They were dedicated to the 80th anniversary since the formation of this autonomous republic situated in the Far East. 400 emissaries from Buryatia — writers, artists, musicians and actors, acquainted Muscovites and their guests with the arts of the republic.

Then the Balkan ensemble presented a programme of ancient Buryat dances and dances from Bashkiri, Kabardian, Uzbekistan, and Mogolia, as well as songs to Russia, Ukraine and Byelorussia.

The exhibition of the fine arts of Buryatia, at the Central Artists Club (10/14 Krymsky Val) is still open. And nearly 300 objects are on view at the following exhibition, "Buryat Traditional Decorative-Applied Art of the 18th-20th Centuries", to be seen at the museum in 3 Deletskaya Street.



The Buryat female dancing group. Photo by Andrei Knyazev



Ts. Semonilov. Sketches for the Buryat play "Gesen". © V. Urtschenko, Khuzhuk.

PROFILES

ANNA RODIONOVA

In a film of about twenty years ago called, "My Friend, Kolkoi", representing a completely novel approach to the school theme, the following episode took place: during an extraordinarily boring after-school meeting one of the pupils decided she will try and make the time pass quicker by seeing how many matchsticks her unusually long eyelashes will support. The part was played by the Moscow schoolgirl, Anna Rodionova. One would never guess looking at this good-looking young person that, while comparatively short, she would develop into one of the most interesting of the younger generation of dramatists, a writer of both film-script and plays.

After her debut in "My Friend, Kolkoi", Anna was to make a fleeting appearance in another film-sonnet — "Diogenes, the Wild Dog". It was therefore no surprise that no finishing school, Anna entered the acting faculty of the All-Union Institute for Cinematography. It was rather what followed that caused raised eyebrows. At the end of her second year, Anna unexpectedly left the institute (to itself an extremely rare occurrence) and enrolled at the Institute of Literature. At the time it might well have seemed that such a sharp change to director was the result of girlish frivolity — nothing more. However, such decisive moves are typical of Rodionova, a reflection of her exceptional strength of character.

Having decided to become a dramatist, she proceeded to get on with the job of writing plays. In 1970, at Moscow's Mossovet Theatre the first night took place of a new play, "I Was the Spring of 1916". Slender and still very young, Anna Rodionova, the author, walked on the stage to take her bows along with the members of the cast and director. The play had a complex and serious theme — the life of the generalissimo of Russia, the man who, with difficulty overcoming their doubts and hesitation, had gone over to the Revolution.

Rodionova had no outstanding success as a dramatist. A number of her plays were already being rehearsed, when she went off to soothe her soul, returning to the cinema, joined an advanced course for scriptwriters. Evidently, for Anna, a quiet peaceful life goes against the grain.



Before long the first film for which she had written the script, "School Wozni", appeared on the screen. Like its predecessor, "My Friend, Kolkoi", it was to be a turning point in the career of school theme. This time the love of yesterday's schoolchildren for each other doesn't end with the appearance of a baby on the scene and criticism of the immediately vanishing Romeo. Instead we have a young girl "seduced and deserted", who is shown by the scriptwriter as possessing a strength of character and wisdom to advance of her years and as Rodionova herself, to be capable of decisive and responsible action. (Added proof of Anna's strength of character, incidentally, is proved by the fact that she manages to effortlessly combine her fashionable literary work with her duties as the mother of four children.)

Rodionova's next film, "Cornelia", was also a hit. And here, too, as to her previous work, an old chestnut of a story — the "coquette" of Moscow by a young girl from the provinces — is imbued with new content, personal observation and a fresh approach.

Thus Rodionova has now embarked on a successful film career. Knowing her character well would be justified in expecting, therefore, that in the near future we will witness another sharp change in direction.

Tatyana SAVITSKAYA

WHAT'S ON!

May 24-27

THEATRES

Kremlo Palace of Congresses (Kremlen). Bolshoi Theatre performances: 24 — Borodin, "Prince Igor" (opera); 25 — Rossini, "The Barber of Seville" (opera); 26 — Minkus, "Don Quixote" (ballet); 27 — Rimsky-Korsakov, "The Tale of the Cuckoo" (opera). Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq). Guest performances by the Kirov Opera and Ballet Theatre (Leningrad): 25 — Petrov, "Peter the Great" (opera); 26 — Tchaikovsky, "The Queen of Spades" (opera); 27 — Adam, "Carmen" (ballet).

Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 24 — A concert by the opera soloist Lydia Chernykh. 25 — Zhukovskiy, "Moscow Belled Us" (opera); 26 — Khramov, "Dorothea" (musical comedy); 27 — Strauss, "Der Zigeunerbaron" (operetta). Operetta Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.). 24 — Gorkhovsky, "Quadrille"; 25 — Kalman, "The Cyprian Princess"; 27 — Zhurbin, "Chamber". Musical Theatre (71 Leningradsky Prospekt). 25 — Tektakishvili, "Muzikal".

FILMS

We don't Choose Our Parents (Lentini Studio, USSR). About parents' responsibility for their children. Cinema: "Khudozhnik" (14 Arbatskaya St., Metro Arbatskaya). Nori (India, 2 parts). The love-story of Nori and Joseph. Cinema: "Tashkent" (Parade Novokosminskaya St., Metro Ryazanskaya Prospekt).

EXHIBITIONS

Timiryazev Botany Museum (15 Malaya Gruzinskaya St.). The Republican exhibition of cactuses. Over a thousand different species of a hundred different varieties on view. Opening ceremony at 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. On May 24 and Friday, May 25, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Central Art Club (Pushkinskaya St.). About 200 portraits, sketches, and illustrations.

BUSINESS

PROMOTING COOPERATION

The Soviet Union and France are linked by long-standing and solid cooperation in trade and scientific-technical contacts. This was stressed at the 17th General Assembly of the French-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, held in Moscow.

Despite the economic recession in the capitalist world and the aggravation in the political atmosphere, said Deputy Foreign Trade Minister of the USSR N. Komarov, in his address to the meeting, there is a constant expansion in cooperation between the USSR and the industrially developed countries. France continues to remain one of our main trading partners. Our links in such branches of the economy as agriculture, power industry, medicine, chemistry, etc. develop at a successful pace.

Actual trade in 1982 reached 11.5 thousand million roubles. French firms are taking part in the construction of the export gas pipeline, in accordance with the terms of the major "gas-

pipes" contract. France has exported to the USSR various equipment for 150 Soviet industrial projects. In turn, the USSR exports to France chemical goods, metal-cutting machine tools, raw energy materials, and cereals. Major work on both sides goes into this exchange, in which the French-Soviet Chamber of Commerce plays a small part.

The chamber was set in 1967 and now incorporates more than 400 Soviet and French organizations, firms, banks and enterprises. Its activities are mainly geared towards facilitating contacts, exchange of information, delegations of businessmen, and the organization of meetings. Thus 39 lectures, seminars, and symposiums for Soviet specialists were organized in 1982 in the chamber's Moscow office. Many Soviet-French contracts have been signed with assistance from the chamber.

Viktor YEVKIN

FANTASY IN GLASS

Glassexport, the Czechoslovak foreign trade organization, has arranged an interesting exhibition in Moscow of items of glass and cut glass to be exported to the Soviet Union. Included in the show are exquisite sets of glass, vases, goblets, and decorative items.

The USSR is a major buyer of Czechoslovak glass, accounting for 80 per cent of all deliveries to the socialist countries. The main imports are high-quality glass, chandeliers and lamps, as well as glass for monuments, windows and mirrors.

Soviet customers show great interest in the traditional manually polished high-grade items of lead cut glass, to objects made from enamelled glass, to the wide choice of painted

tumbler and glasses for drinks, in plaques and above all in the classical assortment of chandelier pendants.

Czechoslovak glass industry exports are ensured by long-term trade agreements, made more specific by annual protocols.

One of Glassexport's main trading partners is the Soviet foreign trade association of Raznoexport, which ensures a steady flow of high-quality glass and chandeliers on to the Soviet market. Glassexport's second biggest partner is VJO Technomashimport, which specializes in imports of technical glass goods. Glassexport also maintains good contacts with Medexport, Soyuzchimimport, and Stroiimport.

the Ossetian epic, by the North Ossetian artist, Zaur-Bek Abayev, are on display. Daily, except Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. Metro Kuznetsky Most.

CONCERT HALLS

Central Concert Hall (1 Moskovskaya Embankment, at the Rossiya Hotel). 24 — An evening with Lev Leshchenko. 25, 26 — The Kirov Opera and Ballet Theatre dancers perform. Tchaikovsky Concert Hall (31 Gorky St.). 26 — Piano music played by Vladimir Ovchinnikov. 27 — Moscow Philharmonic Society Symphony Orchestra.

SPORTS

Football. Lenin Central Stadium. 26 — Olympic elimination match. USSR vs Greece. 7 p.m.

The four teams in the first European group — the USSR, Bulgaria, Hungary and Greece are fighting for the first chance of taking part to the Olympics-84.

Lokomotiv Stadium (125 Bolshaya Cherkizovskaya St.). 26 — Moscow Lokomotiv vs Riga Dnepr. 7 p.m.

BASKETBALL

Central Army Club Sports Gym (39 Leningradsky Prospekt). 24 — The 8th Summer Tournament of Soviet Nations. Women's teams. 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The first team champion will be named on May 24, the last day of the tournament.

RACING

Hippodrome (22 Bogoyeva St.). 25 and 27 — Racing and trotting. 6 p.m. (both days).

WEATHER

May 24-27

In Moscow, city and region, warm weather with showers. Night temperatures of 12°, 17°C and of 23°, 28°C during the day. A slight temperature drop is expected at the end of the period.

According to statistics collected over many years, the highest temperature of +31.3°C was registered in Moscow on May 26, 1891, the lowest (−2.5°C) — on May 30, 1885.

PRESENTED BY BELGIAN FIRMS

An exhibition-stand of Belgian foodstuffs and drinks took place at the International Trade Centre in Moscow for the representatives of Soviet organizations.

This is the first time we organize such an exhibition to the USSR, Jan-Pierre Gilson, a spokesman of the Belgian foreign trade office, told an MTI correspondent. We are acquainted with the economic targets for the eleven Soviet five-year plans as well as with the Food Programme now being carried out in your country, which attracted great interest to Belgium. Our firms hope to advance our goods to the USSR and to promote other mutually advantageous contacts, including cooperation, compensation deals, etc.

Some of the firms represented at the exhibition have already established and maintain business contacts with Soviet organizations, export their products to the USSR.

On display were various meat products, canned food, chocolate, biscuits, beer, soft drinks, liqueurs and champagne. We hope that these products will interest the Soviet side. In June this year, we are also going to send our agricultural mission to Moscow who will be able to hold talks on cooperation in agricultural production.

Contacts and contracts

Cuban clients were supplied by Soviet shipbuilders with a new floating dock meant for work in tropical conditions, under the contract signed between VJO Sudimport and the Cuban organization Marpesca.

Under the contracts signed by VJO Technopromimport and the Polish organization Hon Varimex-Wilmar the USSR will receive from Poland cotton carding machines, reeling machines, dyeing machines and other textile equipment.

Intourist news

TOURS FOR OPERA-LOVERS

Three groups of Canadian opera-lovers, 200 people in all, have spent half a month in the major Soviet tourist centres of Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev. During their tour, they attended many performances at the Bolshoi and the Stanislavsky and Nemtovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre in Moscow and at the Kirov Theatre in Leningrad. They also saw performances by other famous Soviet opera and ballet companies and heard a concert of Russian choral music arranged by Intourist in the

building of the former Znamensky Cathedral, a unique monument of the 18th-century Russian architecture. Included in the itinerary were excursions to Klint Tchaikovsky's native town, to Pushkin with its incomparable palace and park outside Leningrad, and visits to various museums and exhibition halls.

According to contracts concluded between VJO Avioexport and the Czechoslovak foreign trade enterprise Motokov this year the USSR will be supplied with the first batch of Tatra-815 trucks of new modification, as well as large consignments of Alfa refrigerators, Avia lorries and other machinery.

The Canadian visit to Moscow coincided with the Moscow Stars Arts Festival, thousands of tourists from the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Romania, France, Italy, West Germany, Finland and other countries attending the festival will be able to improve their acquaintance with the Soviet and classical arts in performances given by some of the leading ensembles in the country.

Tatyana LESKO

FLY AEROFLOT

MOSCOW-TEHRAN-MOSCOW

Our IL-62 International air-liner will take you 3,770 km in only 4 h 40 min! Here is a Moscow-Teheran flight schedule:

SU-513 IL-62 Thursday	AIRPORT	SU-514 IL-62 Thursday
dep. 9.05 a.m. arr. 12.15 noon	Moscow Teheran	arr. 5.45 p.m. dep. 1.30 p.m.
Thursday	Airport	Thursday

MOSCOW-BAGHDAD-MOSCOW

Our IL-62 will take you 2,760 km in only 3 h 30 min! Here is a Moscow-Baghdad flight schedule:

SU-513 IL-62 Monday	AIRPORT	SU-514 IL-62 Monday
dep. 3.10 p.m. arr. 6.05 p.m.	Moscow Baghdad	arr. 2.35 a.m. dep. 9.10 p.m.
Monday	Airport	Monday

Local time is indicated in the schedule.
For further information please contact your nearest Aeroflot agency or office.

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April 20 1983